

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05744 171555Z

40

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

/025 W

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R 171350Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2156

UNCLAS JIDDA 5744

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, BGEN, LE

SUBJECT: BEIRUT AS A REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR MIDDLE EAST  
BUSINESS OPERATIONS

IN DISCUSSIONS WITH MR. JOHN GRONAN, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS IN EUROPE, AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST FOR EBASCO, INC., A DESIGN ENGINEERING FIRM HEADQUARTERED IN NEW YORK, HE INDICATED THAT EBASCO WAS INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL OFFICE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE EXPRESSED HIS OWN RESERVATIONS ABOUT LOCATING IN BEIRUT IN LIGHT OF RECENT TENSIONS IN THE CITY AND THE REPORTED RELOCATION OF BECHTEL IN KUWAIT. HE FELT THAT THE BECHTEL MOVE MAY SIGNAL A RE-EVALUATION OF THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF BEIRUT AS A REGIONAL CENTER ON THE PART OF OTHER COMPANIES PRESENTLY OPERATING FROM THERE. HOWEVER, HIS OWN APPRAISAL STILL FAVORED BEIRUT BASED ON ITS MORE WESTERNIZED ATMOSPHERE, EASY ACCESS TO EUROPE, AND BETTER COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, BUSINESS FIRMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Office:** ACTION COME  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Subject:** BEIRUT AS A REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR MIDDLE EAST BUSINESS OPERATIONS  
**TAGS:** EGEN, BGEN, LE, EMBASCO INC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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